

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/980,057
Reply to Office Action dated November 29, 2005

PATENT
450118-03186

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IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A transmitter comprising:

[[a]] transmission processing means for transferring a content signal or processing copyright protection on a content signal and then transferring the processed content signal and; logic means for determining whether a connected receiver is based on a specification including encryption technology for said copyright protection through an authentication process; and

[[a]] transmission controlling means for holding information indicating the connected receiver which does not have a function enabling copying of content by using the content signal or the processed content signal transferred from the transmission processing means and controlling output of the signal to be transferred from the transmission processing means according to whether or not information indicating the receiver which is connected to the transmission processing means is included in the held information.

2. (Currently Amended) A transmitter as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said transmitter comprises a protection detecting means for determining if said content is copyright protected; and

wherein said transmission control means transfers a copyright protected content signal from said transmission processing means when said protection detecting means

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determines that said content is copyright protected and transfers a non-copyright protected content signal regardless of the result of decision at the protection detecting means when it is determined that information indicating the receiver connected to said transmission processing means is included in said held information.

3. (Currently Amended) A transmitter as set forth in claim 2,

wherein said transfer controlling means monitors for a change in connection of the receiver connected to said transmission processing means while transferring a content signal of copyright protected content without providing copyright protection and controls said transmission processing means so as not to transfer a non-copyright protected content signal when it detects that the connection ~~has been change~~ changed.

4. (Original) A transmitter as set forth in claim 3,

wherein said transmission controlling means monitors for a change in connection of said receiver by a hot plug detection function or plug and play function.

5. (Original) A transmitter as set forth in claim 3,

wherein said transmission controlling means suspends the transfer of the non-copyright protected content signal or transfers a copyright protected content signal instead of the non-copyright protected content signal so that said non-copyright protected content signal is not transferred.

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6. (Original) A transmitter as set forth in claim 1,
wherein said transmission controlling means holds information indicating said receiver in a tamper-proof updateable manner.

7. (Currently Amended) A signal transfer method ~~including the steps of~~
comprising:
holding in a transmitter information indicating receivers not having the function
of being able to receive a content signal to copy the content and;
deciding whether or not a connected receiver is based on a specification including
encryption technology for said copyright protection through an authentication process; and
controlling the output of the content signal or copyright protected content signal at
the transmitter according to whether or not information indicating the connected receiver is
included in the held information.

8. (Original) A signal transfer method as set forth in claim 7, comprising
the steps of
determining whether to provide copyright protection for said content using said
content signal and
transferring said copyright protected content signal when determining that the
content is copyright protected and receiving said non-copyright protected content signal
regardless of whether said content is copyright protected when determining that information
indicating the connected receiver is included in said held information.

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9. (Original) A signal transfer method as set forth in claim 8, comprising the steps of

monitoring for a change in connection of the connected receiver while transferring a content signal of copyright protected content without providing copyright protection and

prohibiting the transfer of said non-copyright protected content signal when detecting that the connection has been changed.

10. (Original) A signal transfer method as set forth in claim 9, comprising monitoring for a change in connection of said receiver by a hot plug detection function or plug and play function.

11. (Original) A signal transfer method as set forth in claim 9, comprising suspending the transfer of the non-copyright protected content signal or transferring a copyright protected content signal instead of the non-copyright protected content signal so as to prohibit the transfer of said non-copyright protected content signal.

12 - 45. (Canceled)